



CALIFORNIA GARDEN

Per Year
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Nurserymen's Convention Oct. 15-16-17

Agricultural Bulletin No. 14

October Flower and Vegetable Gardens

The Lath House—The Rose—The Dahlia
Drives and Paths

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The California Garden

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POINT LOMA, CALIFORNIA, OCTOBER, 1914

No. 4

The Convention of the California Association of Nurserymen to be held in San Diego, October 15 to 17 at the Grant Hotel is an important event in the garden world. It affords an opportunity to hear the opinions of live folks on live issues. The occasion will bring into the lime light some modest people such as John Morley, who is so quiet that if there were not his Park miracles to prove his existence the same might almost be doubted, and others whose light has not been so obscured with the scriptural bushel.

It has been stated that this convention comes to us irresistibly attracted by the wonderful plants in the Exposition ground and it is not unlikely that a desire on the part of many nurserymen to see how the plants they furnished were thriving was a pulling factor. Modesty forbids us to claim any credit for the Floral Association or the California Garden, and further, all the good books we ever read contained a hit at the self-congratulator. The big thing is that the convention comes, and our anxiety is to have San Diego show that it appreciates the event, not alone by auto rides and the like, which can be had very cheaply in other sections rumor has it, but by attending the sessions to hear what is said. Among the different methods of exhibiting hospitality, there is none so subtle, nor more lasting in its effect, than to prove a good listener when the visitor talks. We know we ask much in advocating the role of listener in our city, we are so sure we have it and we know it, that it seems a positive shame to allow the self-deception of the other fellow to continue, still it is possible that these nursery folks may have something to tell us which it would be good for us to know. There must be a curiosity to know how Superintendent Morley made holes in what he mildly terms the "refractory" soil of our Park; just how Mayor O'Neill and President Davidson will welcome nursery folks; and how Mr. Branton will express his gratification at their methods. But all our readers have a copy of the program and itinerary and if its perusal does not

excite interest it were hopeless for us to try.

All the staff of the California Garden is going to attend regularly, even if the business office has to close for those three days.


We learn that the City Council is holding extraordinary sessions and straining every nerve to allow Tree Commissioner Klauber sixty dollars for the trimming of the trees on Fifth street. It is difficult to decide which most to admire, the Council for these efforts or Mr. Klauber for his persistency. On its appointment the Tree Commission asked for a working fund of ten thousand dollars. Presumably since that time this amount has come down by gradation to this modest sixty, and it is something to know that there is a chance of its being allowed.

While professing the utmost sympathy with the proposal of Mr. Wheeler to utilize the vacant lots to settle the two vital questions of the unemployed and the city beautification, we fear it is a beautiful dream. The majority of our vacant lots have neither, the soil, nor other conditions suitable to profitable culture in vegetables or flowers, and the majority of our unemployed could not so use them were it otherwise. The average unemployed would need two professional gardeners to keep him from doing the wrong thing while a third did the planting. However we have had the privilege of visiting the home of Mr. Wheeler, and it is a sufficient credential to allow him to speak on these matters, and these comments we hope are respectful; they seemed necessary, because the Floral Association was mentioned as one organization among others that might form a company to exploit or rather combine the unutilized forces of the unemployed labor and the vacant lot. We are bound to look out for the Floral Association and must warn it against any attempt to corner the vegetable or flower market. The law frowns on these big combines.

The editor and business manager of California Garden decided to visit the Exposition grounds with the object of writing about them, and in order to get in the right things they sought the guidance of some one who really knew from the Exposition staff, but alas there was revelry and kindred sports going on that day over the completion of a building, photographs of high politics shaking hands with big mechanics and so we didn't get to go, but we live in hopes and so may the reader, as nearly all the buildings are done. In a near issue we expect to take you around.

It is to be hoped that the neighborhood school meetings of the Floral Association so happily inaugurated at the Washington Building last month may become a regular activity. It was demonstrated that the Association has something to give that the people want; it comes in touch with the children, and to cultivate in them a love and knowledge of flowers is a bigger work for a future beautiful city, than any amount of effort spent upon indifferent grown ups. This particular meeting gave a line on how excellent is the garden knowledge of our only Miss Sessions and how admirably she can give it out.

DRIVES AND PATHS

 VISIT to the Exposition grounds inspired this article, because, if ten per cent. of the people that are estimated do attend, the walks will be entirely too narrow to accommodate them with comfort, and one trembles for the beautiful shrubbery and plants when any excitement is on. Of course the paths are many, and regular roadways serve in most directions, but it is the common failing of all our land-seaping to make roads and paths too narrow, whereas many of our public streets are ridiculously wide. Every week petitions are circulated to broaden one some more, when even as it is the traffic cannot kill the weeds and grass. Considering street shortcomings, the most conspicuous crime in this direction of late years is a grade made along the hills at Roseville between the street car track and the canyon boulevard. It is rumored that every property owner along the route strenuously objected, but it went inexorably and horribly through, an everlasting scar on the landscape without excuse of convenience or anything else, and no one wanted a street there anyway. Surely this is the harvest day of the grading contractor.

Returning to paths, it is not uncommon to see one leading to an entrance and less in width than that entrance. This looks badly and is wrong from any point. It suggests that visitors come in a lump down the steps and then break into Indian file down the path which they must do or overflow. One of the contributing causes of this contraction is that a path is getting

to mean a cement one, anything else is a compromise, and yet gravel, edged with chunks of hardpan, is infinitely better looking and more appropriate. If at the junction of paths convenient curves are made so as to leave enlarged open spaces, they are very effective in garden plans, and there is no real reason why paths should all be straight lines. The meat of the matter lies in making a path do its office of leading somewhere in the most convenient manner, and in a garden plan, the lines of the paths naturally form the outlines of the beds or lawns and both must be regarded. In making the plan, the first consideration should be between what points shall I want to circulate, where enter and where leave." Then modifications for shaping good beds and giving graceful lines are admissible, but paths that go nowhere, entrances without approaches, uncomfortable turns, narrow paths that oblige the host to go in front or behind his guests, all these things look badly, feel worse and are inconvenient.

City Beautifying Campaign

Floral Association members are reminded that the City Beautiful Campaign has offices in the Spreckels Building, and is distributing from there plants and seeds. This reminder is not to send them there to receive but to take what they can to be given away.

There is rumor of a cup to be given for School ground gardening and in the next Garden particulars of the Contest may appear.

Horticulture to be Discussed



THE fourth annual convention of the California Association of Nurserymen will be held this year in the U. S. Grant Hotel Auditorium in this city, on October 15, 16 and 17, on which occasion a program of unusual interest will be carried out, treating on many phases of economic and ornamental horticulture under California conditions. Among the addresses may be mentioned: "New Eight-Hour Law," by Mr. Leonard Coates, of Morganhill; "Treating Refractory Soils with Dynamite," by John G. Morley, of San Diego; "Smyrna Fig Culture in Europe and in California" (illustrated with over 60 colored slides), by Geo. C. Roeding, of Fresno; "Some Phases of the Transportation Problem," by J. D. Meriwether, of Los Angeles; "Shall the State Destroy an Industry It Has Created," by John T. Sweet, of Martinez; "Present Quarantine Inspection: Methods and Suggestions for Improvement," by H. A. Weinland, of San Diego; "Recent Lessons in Lemon Culture," by R. C. Allen, of Boneta; "The Exposition Beautiful: Its Educational Value," by Frank P. Allen, Jr., of San Diego; "The Avocado: the Situation as it is Today," by F. O. Popenoe, of Altadena; "Sacramento Valley Development," by W. S. Guilford, of Willows; "The Panama-California Exposition: Its Commercial Significance," by H. O. Davis, of San Diego; "The Home Garden and City Beautiful in 1915," by Ernest Branton, of Los Angeles; "Why Not Grow Seedling Stocks on This Coast," by E. Benard, of San Diego; "The Mendelian Law," by Dr. S. D. Houghton, Los Angeles, besides the Standing Committee reports, addresses of welcome, etc.

On Friday evening, October 16, the Association will be the guest of the San Diego Floral Association, on which occasion addresses on "The Amateur Gardener and the Nurseryman," will be given by Alfred D. Robinson and Miss K. O. Sessions, with a discussion by Theodore Payne, at the conclusion of which there will be a musical program, dancing and refreshments.

On Saturday, October 17th, the Asso-

ciation will be the guests of the Panama-California Exposition officials for a tour of the buildings and grounds of San Diego's "Exposition Beautiful." At noon there will be an informal luncheon at the Mission Cliff Gardens, and in the afternoon an automobile drive to points of interest in and about San Diego.

The railroads have granted a reduced rate of a fare and a third on the receipt-certificate plan, and there will also be reduced rates at the Grant and Brewster hotels. The public is cordially invited to be present at all the sessions of the convention.

The best known nurserymen of the State will be San Diego's guests during these three days, and the Floral Association is asked to turn in and help entertain them in any possible way. We are to look after the decoration of the hall, and keep a fresh display of the best cut flowers and flowering plants which our gardens will supply. This exhibit will take the place of the regular fall flower show, so we should not feel it an additional task. Members having automobiles are also urged to offer them for the sight-seeing trip Saturday afternoon. Subscriptions of sums from \$1.00 up to aid in the entertainment will be gratifying to the local nurserymen, who are not numerically strong in San Diego.

THE FEIJOA

I have found through various experiences that the Feijoa Sellowiana if grown in very fertile soil with lots of water and plenty of care, vegetates extremely well, but never sets fruits, while others under the hardest conditions bear fruits. The remedy for the first mentioned condition is to prune back the plant rather severely in the winter and when it starts to bloom to keep water away from it for a couple of months, then when fruits are well set to water it rather sparingly once a month till maturity of fruits.—California Cultivator.

Keep track of Floral Association meeting places and dates.

California Gardens in October

Timely Planting Notes

George P. Hall

THIS year you should plant all the bulbs you have and if you can get a supply of small ones plant for the future. Many of the bulbs have been coming from abroad, in the now war-ridden zone, and perhaps for years the supply will be cut off, so any surplus you may have for next year will bring good prices. Lilies, amaryllis, and all of the bulbs you plant this month for spring blooming, should be carefully preserved, as the future supplies may run short. Holland is still neutral and the supply of tulips have largely come from that country, but the lesson of the war is to American people to grow and save their own seeds of all kinds. Of course you will put in all the perennials and such annuals as salpiglossis, penstemons, stocks, snapdragons, and sweet Williams, to take the place of the summer blooms that have passed.

In the vegetable garden, if you have not already done so, soak up the ground you are going to plant several days before planting. Soak with a slow stream so you know there is plenty of undermoisture. It is useless to depend on starting seeds in dry under-soil with only the surface barely moistened. If there is undermoisture and you put in the seed in drills, after the top has dried sufficiently so it is not muddy, you can cover the seed with partly dry soil and the seed will quickly germinate and get a good start during the two months yet to come before long cool nights arrest the growth of young tender plants. There is still time for "six weeks beans". Put in potatoes, vegetable oyster, beets of all kinds, especially the table varieties; onions, both sets and seed, silver skins are mild and clean. Plant liberally of Windsor beans, all peas—Strategems are doing well and American wonder is as good as any of the low growing kinds. Put lime and sulphur in the drills dusted so it will cover the soil. Peas like lime, and mildew does not like sulphur. If your garden has been cropped several years, and you have

not given it any fertilizer, and cannot get barnyard manure, use nitrate of soda and blood and bone. Do not expect growth in hungry soil.

It is cabbage, cauliflower and turnip time, with kohlrabi as a mediator. You can get lettuce in four weeks and radishes in forty days. The white Chinese are good for winter. Spinach, corn salad and cress are a little out of the ordinary but are all right. Parsley and parsnip come in good play. Rabbits like parsnips and it is the part of wisdom to have enough fowls, rabbits and pigs to eat up the surplus you do not sell or use. You get the refuse in concentrated form as meat for your table. Winter Crimson rhubarb will go in well and give you good stalks in winter if you liberally supply the under soil with fertilizer. If you need alfalfa, sow it now and the plants will get several leaves before the cold winds drop down from the mountains to check it. After getting a start it does not mind if the temperature falls to 28 above.

Good time to make rose cuttings from the trimmings of your bushes you want to bloom during winter. Plant in sharp sand, five buds in the ground two out. Do not make the mistake of sticking them in a couple of inches in the soil and six out to catch the wind and sun; put them in sharp sand, if the soil is clay. They like clay when they get rooted. Cut the pieces so there is a bud at the bottom for roots to start from, none will start from the intermediate sections between buds. If the green aphids are on the new wood, spray them well with force from the hose. Knock their right wings and crumple their center. If in trimming your trees you find some bloom save it as it will make apples. Apples are not standing on their going, they think they have just as much right to bloom and bear as do the orange and lemon in winter. Do not forget that the most important thing is to irrigate in the autumn months before the rains come. Soak slowly and deeply.

Come to the October meeting.

The Flower Garden

Mary Matthews



WHILE we hear regrets expressed on all sides that there is to be no flower show this fall, still in a way it may stimulate us to do much more for the coming spring shows, and to do this, work should go vigorously on from now until spring. If your orders for bulbs placed last month have been filled and your ground prepared as it should have been done, put the bulbs in at once, and let them have the benefit of the rains and cool days that will follow. The majority of bulbs rejoice in cool, moist conditions. Experts recommend as the safest fertilizer for all, bone meal and guano, to which may be added sulphate of potash at the rate of about one ounce to the square yard. To those who grow flowers there are none so much appreciated as those grown from bulbs. With no other class of plants can be secured such a display of bloom, and the most of them at a season when we greatly desire them, that is, in the late winter and early spring. They are inexpensive, the majority of them, and those who have small gardens have greatly the advantage, as a dozen, or may be fifty of a kind will make quite a show massed together here and there in a small space, while in a large garden the number would have to run into hundreds or thousands, may be, to be effective.

Now is a good time to divide and transplant any perennials that have finished blooming. In an article written by a successful California grower of these things, he says he always divides and re-sets his Shasta daisies at this season, and secures larger and earlier blooms than if done in the spring. Plant more sweet peas, mignonne, and any annuals that you may desire. Prune deciduous shrubs that have bloomed through the summer. Loosen the soil at the base and give them a mulch of fertilizer. Strawy manure if procurable. All plants that make a leafy growth at the base, will have to be watched carefully, as with the coming of the cool weather slugs and cut worms will begin their ravages. A little lime sprinkled around the plant in a circle is often effective; nor are they partial to a frequently stirred soil. The watchword for successful gardening is eternal vigilance.

This is a favorable month to start cut-

tings of the marguerites, and also geraniums, and pelargoniums. I have noticed lately a description of an old pelargonium revived. The grower says its flowers are a bright rosy cerise, is prolific bloomer and added to this, the dark green foliage has a delightful fragrance when crushed in the hand. It is known as (pelargonium clorinda); whether it is grown in San Diego or not I do not know. There is a wonderful outlook here for anyone who cares to specialize in the geraniums and pelargoniums alone; the trouble is that they do so well growing under any and all conditions, withstanding all sorts of hardships, that we have neglected them for rarer and less easily grown things. A garden that contains all the old favorites and well known things, along with the newer ones, is far more attractive than one that has only the present day favorites and fads. Where you have a favorite, whether old or new, do not hesitate to put it in. As has been said before in this magazine, the key note in a garden is "individuality."

WILDFLOWER PLANTING

In order to be able to plant vacant spaces with wild flowers the San Diego Floral Association invites contributions to its "Wild Flower Planting Fund" all such money will be spent on seed and the work necessary to be hired done such as plowing, etc. This is an important activity and should be liberally supported.

The early rain naturally emphasizes the wild flower planting of vacant lots, and the secretary of the Floral Association will be glad to hear of suitable locations for this work. It would seem that one should be on the hill slope by India Street where it will be conspicuous to the millions coming in on the trains in 1915.

It should be clearly understood that the folks around the vacant lots must show a substantial interest in the planting. That is, either do some of the work or put up for it. The Floral Association will do its share.

PASADENA FLOWER SHOW

The Fall flower show of the Pasadena Horticulture Society will be held Thursday, Friday and Saturday, Oct. 22, 23 and 24. No doubt many San Diegans will visit their show as in former years.

The Rudiments of Gardening

Official Bulletin No.14, Issued under Direction of Prof. H. J. Baldwin, County Superintendent of Schools
Teachers will use contents of these Bulletins for their regular classwork in Agriculture

By **GEORGE P. HALL**

President Little Landers Colony, San Ysidro, Cal.

Diseases of Plants. Insect Injuries, Remedies Continued.

Q. What is an insecticide?

A. Generally a liquid compound used to spray on insects that are infesting fruit trees, flowers and shrubs. It is also a means of destroying them by volatile gases which are engendered by the use of acids producing deadly fumes that are not injurious to vegetable life but destructive to insect, animal or human life.

Q. What are Fungicides?

A. Fungicides are usually liquid preparations used to combat fungus diseases in plants, shrubs and stored fruits and vegetables.

Q. How may we know a plant has a fungus disease?

A. By marked discoloration of the leaves and stems as the "Brown Spot" on potato vines, "red rust" on the rose, "curl leaf" on the peach. For these dangerous diseases the remedy is Bordeaux mixture, mentioned in a previous bulletin.

Q. Is mildew classed as a fungus disease?

A. It is as destructive in its effects but is not controlled by the same remedies as are fungus or bacterial diseases in plants. Dry sulphur is dusted on the white powdery mildew to destroy it. Beans, peas, grapes, roses and many plants come under the ban of mildew attacks and must be treated with dry sulphur, the fumes of which are also very useful in combating mites and red spider on orange and lemon trees, and any shrub attacked by these myriads of destructive insects.

Q. Insecticides are used against insect life are they not?

A. Yes, and in addition to sprays that destroy them by contact, there is also used poisons which are dusted on the foliage for the biting insects to take into their system causing death as it would to human beings.

Q. What are some of the poisons used?

A. Preparations of arsenic, called "arsenites" and Paris green, London purple, arsenate of lead, all of which are very poisonous and must be used with great care and caution, or domestic animals our pets and even human life is endangered.

Q. Are there any other means used to combat injurious insects?

A. Yes, vapors and gases are used. Cyanide of potassium is used under a covered tent put over a tree, shrub or plant and in a diluted mixture of acid and water the piece of cyanide is dropped and immediately a poisonous gas is generated which destroys scale and insect life feeding on the foliage or sap of the tree. It must be used in the night as the rays of the sun chemically affect the gas and make it destructive to plant life if used in sunlight. The vapor from Bi-sulphide of carbon is used mostly in destroying insects that work in the soil or on the roots of plants and trees. It is used by perforating the soil for several inches down with a sharp stake or wedge and then pouring in the bi-sulphide. It is volatile and resolves into vapor which is confined in the soil by closing the top of the hole you have poured it into with wet soil. It then diffuses through the soil for several feet around and destroys all insect life. It is used also in killing insects that burrow into seeds. Worms in potatoes and "jumping beans" are relieved of the insect inside of them. It is inflammable like gasoline and must not be used near a fire or any means by which it can be ignited.

Q. Against what insects is it used?

A. Woolly aphis on fruit trees, earth worms, grubs millipedes and any insects that live beneath the ground and injure the growing plant or tree. It is best known by printers who use it to reduce crude rubber to a liquid form, to use in their mechanical blocking of paper. It is also used by covering with a tub or small tent, plants afflicted with aphides or green lice, the enclosed vapor kills them.

Prepare your ground for roses.

The Lath House

The rain of early October and the cooling nights warn us that the dark days of the lath house are at hand and all superfluous growths should be removed, particularly in the case of vines or anything overhead or high on the sides. All the sun and air possible will be wanted. Tuberous begonias should be ripened off even if still blooming. If in pots place the pots on their sides under a bench without removing any of the growth and being careful not to break this off at its junction with the tuber. As the earth dries up the tuber will ripen, shedding the growth. For some time after this has happened the tubers will still be very tender skinned and it is better to leave them alone for a few weeks. The moist atmosphere of a lath house is much better than a dry room. When thoroughly cured they can be stored away in dry sand, but they should be inspected frequently to see that they neither rot nor dry up. Those planted in the ground should have water withheld but much must be left to chance and the weather which can be controlled under potted conditions.

Coleus should be severely headed back and cuttings freely taken. These will make good plants for the house if kept in a light warm window. These plants will go through the winter better out of doors than in a lath house. Coleus bed very satisfactorily here and in cases where there is a pleasing variety, sufficient cuttings may easily be made for an effective clump all alike next year. Their chief enemy is the mealy bug, but a strong soap suds applied with a little paint brush is very efficacious. They should be grown in a strong light and pinched back to make them stocky.

Experiments should be made to find winter and spring blooming plants for the lath house. Cinerarias have been successfully tried, and doubtless the primrose family would give results, both the English primrose and the Chinese varieties. Perhaps the crocus might like the conditions. Before it has been mentioned that many blooming things are to be

found in new lathhouses that disappear as the vines and growth make shade more dense. Certainly the top must be kept free from growth if these winter bloomers are to succeed. It is a question whether lath houses are not being built too low, thus confining the light entrance largely to the top. With more height and different levels a clerestory could be left quite open without direct sun but much more light and air.

Harking back to blooming plants, the writer has this year experimented with seed of streptocarpus, just because a seed catalogue had a wonderful halftone illustration. When the seed was ordered there was no knowledge of what a streptocarpus might be. The seed sprouted readily in a glass house and one seedling has just bloomed. The plant in leaf is like a primrose and the flowers are similar to a gloxinia. Bailey describes it at some length, and as it is a native of South Africa it would probably do well here in company with freesias, watsonias, etc. One experience would tend to show that it would thrive in lath houses here.

Don't water promiscuously any longer. Only things in active growth use much moisture and don't think this is an excuse to not water at all. If you have been applying liquid fertiliser you had better stop for a while.

Remember a heavy rain does not give potted plants as much water as one hand application. Things in pots will be dry while the ground is soaked.

WHAT WOULD YOU DO?

Just suppose that you had a friend, and that friend invited an association to meet at her house. In the course of the evening suppose again that that friend should ask you whether you were going to vote for Mr. Kettner or Mr. Needham. Suppose for the third time that you answered promptly, "Mr. Kettner" and she should say, "Allow me to introduce Mrs. Needham." Now, what would you do?

Are you planting bulbs?

The Dahlia

A. D. ROBINSON

This season has firmly established in my mind the super-excellence of *Souvenir de Gustave Doazen* as a bedding dahlia. No other has shown its ability to sustain the quality of bloom over a long period, and it is also a good cutter. All its flowers are raised well up on good stems and a little trimming renders it independent of a stake. Plant it unhesitatingly when you want an orange red.

The plants cut back six weeks ago are already once more in bud and given favorable weather will make a brave show before October is over.

With these second croppers it should be remembered that this blooming will be of short duration, and very little cutting back or disbudding is recommended. Keep the ground moist, use a little quick acting stimulant, such as nitrate, and keep off spent blooms.

Seedlings planted as late as September are doing well and as usual, fill in the gaps between bloom crops of the tubers.

It is important that you mark your plants while they are in bloom, and particularly with the seedlings, as there are always a number unworthy of a second culture, but in making selection keep in mind the fact that most of them will improve in size the second year, but the awful magentas will stay offensive and the type will not change.

In this year's seedling bed is a plant of fair bloom with very attractive foliage, being marked strongly with yellow all along the main ribs of the leaf division. So far this variegation seems persistent. With seedlings, particularly late ones, it is better to leave the tubers in the ground over winter, as the small size of these tubers renders them hard to carry over, if dug, without drying out.

The cool summer has militated against the dahlias making seed. Most varieties did not mature a single pod. The singles always do, and any inferior kind. Fortunately Rosecroft has quite a stock of a former season's gathering so that a package as a premium can still be had with a new subscription to *California Garden*.

Don't dig up your dahlias while the tops are green and growing. For best ripening they should stay in the ground

till the top dies, but if this cannot be, cut them down and then wait a couple of weeks before digging. However, this year have successfully moved dahlias while in full bloom, by cutting them back to the ground and transferring the tuber from one place to another without giving it a chance to dry. This is worth remembering in case one accidentally gets fighting colors in too close proximity. I have seen but few dahlia patches that did not have a color conflict. If you have fine seedling dahlias take them to the Nurserymen's Convention.

The Rose

If one may judge by other growths, roses are to be in good condition for planting much earlier this season than usual. Of course this refers to the dormant stock that is handled with bare roots, and this is the best kind to plant in spite of the much touted boxed and potted bushes advertised as available at any season. They are so available, but if established any length in these receptacles, root action must have been more or less distorted, driven by confinement to go round and round, and considerable time is required to return to normal extension.

It is not unusual for a pot-bound plant to stay so bound a long time after being put out in the ground and quite a number never free themselves and die. A common but most fatal idea is that plants from pots do not need as large a hole as the dormant stock in setting out. It is so easy to take out a spadeful, force in the mass of roots, smooth the surface and call it planting. The very pot bound root condition calls for a good area of loose earth to invite expansion. Before it has been stated that these boxed roses are a concession to the man who cannot wait or cannot get ready on time.

There should be a large planting this fall, and so it would seem wise to select varieties and order at once. The ten best roses for San Diego according to the *California Garden* list would be: Red, General MacArthur; White, Frau Karl Druschki, and Kaiserin Augusta Victoria; Pink,

Cochet and Caroline Testout; Yellow, Reve d'or, Franz Deegan; Shaded, Joseph Hill, Lyon and Cecile Bruner.

In the newer roses Juliet, George Arends and Mrs. Aaron Ward are worth trying, and there will be hardly one reader who won't have a favorite to add to the list. In such a case add yours, for you are the gardener, or ought to be.

Don't be surprised if the fall blooms are disappointing this year, and remember that in any case what you get in the fall you lose in the spring and contrariwise. Diligent cultivation, pruning out of dead wood, a little nitrate of soda as a stimulant, all should be tried. Don't forget that pruning now is not to be the severe operation indicated in the spring. There is not the time to grow a bush all over again, and if the bushes don't seem to want to make an effort, leave them alone. They are getting ready as we all should be for 1915.

Nitrate of Soda on Old Meadows

The following is taken from the U. S. Government News Letter, and if the reader substitutes lawn for "meadow", the information given is very valuable, and further endorses the preachment of California Garden about nitrate being a stimulant rather than a plant food.

On an old meadow which has not been properly fertilized a top dressing of nitrate of soda is almost certain to show very marked results. The farmer is likely to be so enthusiastic over the showing made that he at once concludes that nitrogen is the one factor needed to make his hay crop a profitable one. Right here lies the danger. While the first application of nitrate of soda may show these marked results, it is not by any means safe to conclude that nitrogen is the only element of fertility needed. Repeated applications of nitrate of soda may soon result in no apparent benefit and even result in a final condition worse than the original condition. The first application of nitrate of soda shows such marked results because there is a marked deficiency of nitrogen in the soil; but there is sufficient of the other fertilizing elements, particularly phosphorus and potassium, to balance the

nitrogen used. The increased crop yields from the use of nitrate of soda make an increased drain upon the available phosphorus and potassium of the soil. No effort being made to replace these elements thus removed, the time very soon comes when no response is received from the application of nitrate of soda, because the phosphoric acid and potash have been depleted, or, in other words, are the limiting factors. As a rule, where nitrate of soda is used as a fertilizer it is a safe principle to use in connection with it some form of phosphorus and potassium, having in mind permanent results rather than a temporary increase due to the nitrate of soda.

Convention Exhibits

The following is reprinted from the Program of the Convention of the California Association of Nurserymen to be held in the Grant Hotel, Oct. 15 to 17, and every reader is urged to heed the request made therein. In view of the fact that the usual Fall show has been merged into this Convention it is expected that a very liberal and wide-spread response will be made. Miss Sessions is arranging for a characteristic local exhibit, if you have anything for it communicate with her.

The convention will appreciate exhibits of new and little known plants (or extra fine specimens), flowers and fruits; of machinery and appliances pertaining to the nursery business; of gardeners' and orchardists' requisites; and, in fact, anything that will appeal to the convention, are solicited. Not only are such displays welcome from an educational point of view, but they add to the interest and attractiveness of the convention. **All exhibits should be sent by prepaid express to Mr. E. Benard, care Harris Seed Co., No. 1724 F Street, San Diego, Cal., so as to reach him not later than Wednesday, October 14, 1914.** The exhibits will be beautifully staged in the assembly hall of the superb U. S. Grant Hotel, headquarters and meeting place of the convention. Plantsmen and fruitmen are cordially invited to contribute to this feature of the Association's meetings.

Try to Organize a Neighborhood Wildflower Project

The Soap Nut Analyzed

IN view of the fact that Mr. E. Moulie is distributing so many soap nut seeds throughout San Diego, upon receiving promises that they will be planted and cared for, it will be interesting to read of the experimental analyses made in 1910 by Messrs. O. W. Willcox and M. J. Rentschler, as told in the publication, "Pure Products."

They spoke of the efforts of Mr Moulie in distributing 500,000 of the seeds throughout the United States, and through him they secured two pounds of the soap nuts produced by the only tree which had then arrived at maturity. The accompanying figure gives a good idea of the appearance of the fruit of the soap-nut tree.

was 19.5%, and in comparison with the soap-nut showed quite a difference in favor of the latter.

Experiments then made to compare the character of the foam yielded by the two saponine-producing materials, showed the bark bubbles to be much coarser than those from the soap-nut.

Experiments to determine emulsifying powers, showed that the soap-nut, the bark and castile soap powder, all settled at practically the same time.

As a by-product, within the hull of the soap-nut is a hard, black kernel, which is a source of oil. An interesting comparison of the soap-nut seed with the peanut is here made:



SOAP-NUT AND SEED OF THE SOAP TREE
(*SAPINDUS MUKOROSI*)

They ground the hulls, mixed with water and boiled, concentrating to one-third the original bulk, and then clarified with egg albumen. The yield was 73% of soluble extractive matter, which was then treated with 15% of alcohol. The extract was then allowed to stand for several weeks, resulting in a dark liquid essence of high foam-producing power, which does not cause turbidity when added to beverages that are to be carbonated. It may also be evaporated into a powder which dissolves easily in water.

They then secured two pounds of Panama bark, which has long been the leading foam-producing product, and from which they made an extract somewhat after the fashion of beet sugar production. The yield of dry extract from the bark

	Soap Nut Seeds	Peanuts
Moisture	8.40	9.2
Ash	4.04	2.0
Oil	37.18	38.6
Protein	25.38	25.8
Crude Fibre	1.84	2.5
Carbohydrates	23.16	24.4

The oil obtained from soap-nut by extraction has a bland and very agreeable taste. In Hamburg the hulls may be bought for 7½ cents per pound, which is about the price of Panama bark, but the yield of the former is nearly four times as great as that of the bark.

The above would seem to give the soap-nut tree sufficient commercial value to make it a worthy addition to our list of profitable trees.

Pickings and Peckings

By THE EARLY BIRD

All this year things have been ahead of themselves and it is still so. Only the end of September and yet many trees are almost bare of leaves. Figs have less foliage than they had in December last year. It looks like an early winter. Just as I had made these observations, the south wind blew and the clouds gathered and it rained. Not a little shower but a steady job all night, and where I roost the gauge said over an inch. Now I love to speculate on causes, so I set to work to tabulate our local moisture experts, and consider their claims to the authorship of this premature downpour.

Naturally the first was the water department, but its achievements are under the heads of storage and delivery and of course presenting and collecting the bill. No the water department was not the rain maker.

Then came Transportation. No, he is out of the water business now.

Next the Exposition, which has brought and is to bring so many things to the city. No, it takes water—does not give it.

Now the water judge. Still I have not found him for the judge could bring water only through the San Diego River. Finally the purveyor of real estate, water, or anything else. Well if any of them had ought to do with it, it was he, for he keeps doing things not expected and if he were to deny it it would profit him nothing for the others would not believe him.

As the rain appears to have been quite local, (Los Angeles not getting any, Ha! Ha!) it may be a special dispensation to help out the City Beautiful Campaign, for if the next one is not too long delayed (say a couple of weeks) what a chance for all these vacant lot activities. It is incredible how quickly seeds sprouted after this rain, which fell Friday night, and on Monday morning the ground was covered with tiny seedlings. I suppose now my quails will scatter. They always do after the first rain. All summer long they have roosted in my cypresses, picked my lawn night and morning and yelled at me to "Get right back" every time I showed

myself. And by the way my lawn is the place to study life in my kingdom. At early dawn, a sickle-billed thrush appears. He is a terribly dissipated old boy and has probably been up all night. His head is quite grey and his bill is a terrible instrument. In no time he drags forth bugs enough to make a petit déjeuner and scoots off at a run to give way for a bevy of quails, that eat grass like the ox, quarrel a bit, and run through the hedge as if they had seen a ghost. Then the meadow larks come, splendid alert chaps with yellow breast and chocolate monogram. They dig actively for worms, chirrup cheerfully and fly to the telephone wire to pay for their breakfast with their melodious call. Linnets, flycatchers, orioles, canaries, and lots of others succeed one another all day, and the last thing at night back come the quail and do it all over again only reversed. I am constrained to believe that any lawn grows other things save grass, and very interesting ones too.

To enjoy a garden one must live in it as well as own it and the two by no means necessarily go together.

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Moneta, California

The California Garden

Alfred D. Robinson, Editor
G. T. Keene, Manager

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OCTOBER MEETING

The October Regular meeting of the Floral Association will be held Tuesday evening, the 20th, at Mrs. A. A. Ackerman's 3170 Curlew Street. Take No. 3 or No. 5 car to First and Spruce Sts., cross the Spruce Street bridge and go one block west. Subject "Ferns", symposium.

NOVEMBER REGULAR MEETING

The November regular meeting of the Floral Association will be held Tuesday evening, the 17th, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. E. E. White, 3100 Second St., corner of Second and Redwood. Take No. 3 or No. 5 car to Second and Spruce, walk one block south. Subject, "Rose Cuttings and Rose Grafting."

NOVEMBER OUT-DOOR MEETING

The Floral Association will have an opportunity of inspecting Chas. W. Oesting's Japanese tea-garden home on El Cajon Boulevard, Tuesday afternoon, November 3, when an out-door meeting will be held there. Arrangements will undoubtedly be made for autos to carry the visitors from the end of the East San Diego carline to the garden.

SCHOOL-HOUSE MEETING

The first school-house meeting was held on the last Tuesday evening in September, in the Washington School with most

encouraging results. Nearly 150 parents and children were present and seemed very much interested in the timely and instructive talks by Mr. Robinson and Miss Sessions. Quite a number of plants, cuttings and seeds were given away, and the eagerness with which they were received seemed to indicate that they would be planted and cared for.

The Association feels that much of the success of this first meeting was due to the lively interest taken in it by Prof. Pete W. Ross, principal of the school, who has been a faithful member of the Floral Association since its organization.

This new plan seems to have opened a field of practical work in spreading a knowledge and love of flowers and it is hoped that more members will take an active interest in the meetings to follow throughout the city.

OCTOBER OUT-DOOR MEETING

Tuesday afternoon, October 6, was the date of the Out-Door Meeting at "Marcelita," the home of Mrs. C. W. Darling, Chula Vista, and quite a number of members and their friends were in attendance. It is always a pleasure to visit the garden spot, Chula Vista, and thought it is not the time of year to see Mrs. Darling's flowers at their best, yet the trip would be worth while if there were no flowers at all, just to get the beautiful mountain, ocean and city view, from the fine point of vantage at the Darling home.

Mrs. Darling is going in for bulb flowers, having put in over 1300, comprising the well known branches of the great family of bulbs. Their lemon trees, which were given a setback by the frost two years ago, are now coming on in fine shape, with the trees well loaded with fruit and blossoms.

We were permitted to sample the first crop from their feijoa sellowiana and it is indeed fine. That is one of the new fruits which one doesn't have to cultivate a liking for. It is pleasing from the first taste. The guests also ate their fill of fine luscious figs. Quite a number of dahlias were still in bloom, one particularly fine seedling being much admired.

Coffee and cakes were served in the dining room after the tour of inspection. This little journey to the home of a nature lover adds another pleasant memory to the many in the history of the Floral Association.

September Meeting



At its meeting at the home of J. W. West, Mission Hills, Tuesday evening, Sept. 15, the San Diego Floral Association decided to merge its regular fall flower show with the continuous exhibits to be maintained during the three days convention of the California Nurserymen's Association, to be held at the Grant Hotel, October 15, 16 and 17.

The Association has long desired to have a show of bulb flowers, which grow here to wonderful perfection, but the fall show was too early and the spring show too late. By holding a substitute for the fall show, at which there will be no competition or prizes awarded, and for which there will be no admission price, the association will be able to hold a bulb show early in 1915, and will follow with three other shows during the year making four, instead of two as heretofore.

Violets and chrysanthemums were the two flowers discussed at the meeting. H. E. Sies, San Diego's leading grower of 'Mums, gave an excellent talk on his favorite flower.

"The Chrysanthemum," said Sies, "requires the same kind of soil as the rose. It should be heavy; sandy soil will not do. Mine is adobe, and about the first of April I spade in a lot of barnyard manure. Any soil that bakes after being watered needs plenty of coarse manure.

"The plants are put in about the 10th of May and pressed well down. They must be watered freely. At first I do not fertilize much, but about June 20, I begin the English system of "stopping back," I don't believe in cutting clear back, as many do here; I think the shock to the plant is too great for the best results.

"The wood at the base hardens and I don't cut back into this hard wood. In growing for show blooms I figure that a plant will grow three perfect specimens; that is, that if all but one bud are pinched off, the one bloom remaining will not be any larger or better than if I had left three on.

"After stopping back and forcing out three shoots, I begin to feed, giving liquid manure once a week for three weeks, stopping for three weeks, and then feeding again. If the leaves begin to curl it is a sign they have all the food they can stand, and I try to keep them just at the

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point of having all the food they want up to the point of curling. When the bud begins to break and show color, stop feeding.

"The buds are examined every day and the side shoots kept rubbed off, not letting them get more than an inch long. The largest and best buds are selected to be left.

"I prefer to raise my plants from cuttings, rather than root division. The old plants are neglected by many after through blooming. To raise good blooms the plant should be cared for twelve months in the year. If they are raised from cuttings there is no danger from root diseases, and if well cared for rust will not develop and the insects will not bother as much.

"Fertilizer should never be applied when the plant is dry, but after watering. Cuttings are taken in January and February and started in sand. The growing plants should be cultivated as regularly as irrigated. A plant with a large leaf surface will require more water and fertilizer than the smaller kinds.

Mr. Sies has several hundred plants and is planning on holding a Chrysanthemum reception at his gardens in East San Diego, October 25, 26 and 27, when the public are welcome to see the result of a practical application of these working plans in growing prize blooms.

E. Moulie gave a demonstration of the lather making properties of the hull of the soap-nut, and showed some of the fine oil derived from the nut itself, which he claims is the equal of olive oil for all purposes. Seeds of this tree are being distributed free to those who will plant and care for them, with promise of a market for the product when the trees have reached the stage of bearing.

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This is Hecuba

WHILE Noah and his kin were thus gloriously upholding the Rosecroft banner, Cassandra and Hecuba kept on laying, making a record of 203 eggs in five months, between May 4 and October 4.

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F A MAN came to your garden and offered to answer these four questions twelve times a year for one dollar, you would deem him a fool, but nevertheless would close the proposition, because the way of man is to avoid consideration of the other fellow's interest in a deal, or most anywhere, for that matter. But supposing that fool man not only undertook such a contract but further pledged himself to introduce to your notice each and every month some new flower or fruit, often both, that it might pay you to plant, and for good measure would give its history, whence it came, how it behaved when the other fellow tried it; and then offered you some of the seed—You would have a fit.

Well, that is the very thing THE PACIFIC GARDEN is doing. It believes that Potatoes and Tomatoes are pretty well looked after and is digging away at the introduction into Southern California of Semi-Tropical Flowers and Fruits. Of course it deals with all garden problems, even the simplest, as pupils for the kindergarten are always at hand, like the ant and the pesky aphids.



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It might be shown that it is your duty to aid THE PACIFIC GARDEN to aid you, but that would smack of orthodoxy and heterodoxy is its most cherished attribute.

You are preparing, if you get a chance, to say, "I don't want it." But how do you know if you have not given it a trial. You would act on pure assumption. Now the publisher, who has to read every issue, even if he does not want to, and has no garden, is quite positive you do want it. Before deciding "who lies" you must have knowledge. So send in your subscription by return mail—which is One Dollar per year. It is a monthly.

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